HYMNS

Hymns
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FOR THE

NATIVITY

OF

OUR LORD.

LONDON:

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BRITISH MUSEUM

HYMNS

FOR THE

NATIVITY, &c.

HYMN I.

1 YE ſimple men of heart ſincere,
Shepherds, who watch your flocks by night,
Start not to ſee an angel near,
Nor tremble at his glorious light.

2 An herald from the heavenly king,
I come your every fear to chaſe;
Good tidings of great joy I bring,
Great joy to all the fallen race.

3 To you is born on this glad day,
A Saviour, by our hoſt adoréd;
Our God in Bethlehem ſurvey,
Make haſte to worſhip Chriſt the Lord.

4 By this the Saviour of mankind,
The incarnate God ſhall be diſplayéd,
The Babe ye wrappéd in ſwathes ſhall find,
And humbly in a manger laid.

H Y M N II.

1 YE heavenly choir
Aſſiſt me to ſing,
And ſtrike the ſoft lyre,
And honour our king:
His mighty ſalvation
Demands all our praiſe,
Our beſt adoration,
And loftieſt lays.

2 All glory to God.
Who ruleth on high.
And now hath beſtowéd,
And ſent from the ſky
Chriſt Jeſus the Saviour,
Poor mortals to bleſs:
The pledge of his favour,
The ſeal of his peace.

H Y M N III.

1 ANGELS ſpeak, let men give ear,
Sent from high,
They are nigh,
And forbid our fear.

2 News

2 News they bring us of ſalvation,
Sounds of joy
To employ
Every tongue and nation.

3 Welcome tidings! to retrieve us
From our fall,
Born for all,
Chriſt is born to ſave us.

4 Born his creatures to reſtore,
Abject earth,
Sees his birth,
Whom the heavens adore.

5 Wrappéd in ſwathes the immortal ſtranger,
Man with men,
We have ſeen
Lying in a manger.

6 All to God's free-grace is owing;
We are his
Witneſſes,
Poor, and nothing knowing.

7 Simple ſhepherds, us he raiſes,
Bids us ſing,
Chriſt the King,
And ſhew forth his praiſes.

8 We have ſeen the King of glory,
We proclaim
Chriſt his name,
And record his ſtory.

9 Sing we with the hoſt of heaven,
Reconciléd,
By a child,
Who to us is given.

10 Glory be to God the giver,
Peace and love
From above
Reign on earth for ever.

HYMN IV.

1 GLORY be to God on high,
And peace on earth deſcend;
God comes down; he bows the ſky,
And ſhews himſelf our friend!
God, the inviſible, *appears*,
God, the bleſt, the great I AM,
Sojourns in this vale of tears,
And Jeſus is his name,

2 Him the angels all adoréd,
Their Maker and their King;
Tidings of their humbled Lord,
They now to mortals bring:
Emptied of his majeſty,
Of his dazzling glories ſhorn,
Being's ſource *begins to be*,
And God himſelf is born!

3 See the eternal Son of God,
A mortal ſon of man,
Dwelling in an earthly clod,
Whom heaven cannot contain!
Stand amazéd, ye heavens, at this!
See the Lord of earth and ſkies!
Humbled to the duſt he is,
And in a manger lies!

4 We the ſons of men rejoice,
The Prince of peace proclaim,
With heaven's hoſt lift up our voice,
And ſhout Immanuel's name:

Knees

Knees and hearts to him we bow,
Of our flesh and of our bone,
Jesus is our brother now,
And God is all our own!

HYMN V.

1 LET earth and heaven combine,
Angels and men agree,
To praise in songs divine
The incarnate Deity,
Our God contracted to a span,
Incomprehensibly made man.

2 He laid his glory by,
He wrappéd him in our clay,
Unmarkéd by human eye,
The latent Godhead lay,
Infant of days he here became;
And bore the mild Immanuel's name.

3 See in that infant's face
The depths of Deity,
And labour while ye gaze,
To sound the mystery;
In vain: ye angels gaze no more,
But fall and silently adore.

4 Unsearchable the love,
That hath the Saviour brought,
The grace is far above,
Or man or angel's thought;
Suffice for us that God we know,
Our God is manifest below.

5 He deigns in flesh to appear,
Widest extremes to join,
To bring our vileness near,
And make us all divine;

And we the life of God ſhall know,
For God is manifeſt below.

6 Made perfect firſt in love,
And ſanctified by grace,
We ſhall from earth remove,
And ſee his glorious face;
His love ſhall then be fully ſhowéd.
And man ſhall all be loſt in God.

HYMN VI.

1 JOIN all ye joyful nations,
Th' acclaming hoſt of heaven,
This happy morn,
A child is born,
To us a ſon is given.

The meſſenger and token
Of God's eternal favour,
God hath ſent down,
To us his Son,
An univerſal Saviour!

2 The wonderful Meſſias,
The joy of every nation,
Jeſus his name,
With God the ſame,
The Lord of all creation.

The Counſellor of ſinners,
Almighty to deliver,
The Prince of Peace,
Whoſe love's increaſe,
Shall reign in man for ever.

3 Go ſee the King of glory,
Diſcern the heavenly ſtranger,
So poor and mean,
His court an inn,
His cradle is a manger.

Who from his Father's boſom,
But now for us deſcended,
Who built the ſkies,
On earth he lies,
With only beaſts attended.

4 Whom all the angels worſhip,
Lies hid in human nature;
Incarnate ſee
The Deity
The infinite Creator!

See the ſtupendous bleſſing,
Which God to us has given;
A child of man,
In length a ſpan,
Who fills both earth and heaven.

5 Gaze on that helpleſs Object
Of endleſs adoration!
Thoſe infant hands,
Shall burſt our bands,
And work out our ſalvation;

Strangle the crooked ſerpent,
Deſtroy his works for ever,
And open ſet
The heavenly gate,
To every true believer.

6 Till then, thou holy Jeſus,
We humbly bow before thee,
Our treaſures bring
To ſerve our King,
And joyfully adore thee:

To thee we gladly render
Whate'er thy grace hath given,
Till thou appear,
In glory here,
And take us up to heaven.

HYMN VII.

1 ALL glory to God, And peace upon earth,
Be publiſhéd abroad At Jeſus's birth:
The forfeited favour Of heaven we find
Reſtoréd in the Saviour And Friend of mankind.

2 Then let us behold Meſſias the Lord,
By prophets foretold, By angels adoréd;
Our God's incarnation, With angels proclaim,
And publiſh ſalvation In Jeſus's name.

3 Our newly-born King By faith we have ſeen,
And joyfully ſing His goodneſs to men,
That all men may wonder At what we impart,
And thankfully ponder His love in their heart.

4 What movéd the Moſt High, So greatly to ſtoop?
He comes from the ſky Our ſouls to lift up;
That ſinners forgiven Might ſinleſs return
To God and to heaven, Their Maker is born.

5 Immanuel's love, Let ſinners confeſs,
Who comes from above, To bring us his peace;
Let every believer His mercy adore,
And praiſe him for ever, When time is no more.

HYMN VIII.

1 AWAY with our fears;
The Godhead appears,
In Chriſt reconciléd,
The Father of Mercies in Jeſus the child.

2 He comes from above,
In manifeſt love,
The deſire of our eyes,
The meek Lamb of God in a manger he lies.

3 At Immanuel's birth
What a triumph on earth,
Yet could it afford
No better a place for its heavenly Lord!

4 The Ancient of Days,
To redeem a loſt race,
From his glory comes down,
Self-humbled to carry us up to a crown.

5 Made fleſh for our ſake,
That we might partake,
The nature divine,
And again in his image, his holineſs ſhine;

6 An heavenly birth,
Experience on earth,
And riſe to his throne,
And live with our Jeſus eternally one.

7 Then let us believe,
And gladly receive
The tidings they bring,
Who publiſh to ſinners, their Saviour and King.

5 And while we are here,
Our King ſhall appear,
His Spirit impart,
And form his full image of love in our heart.

HYMN IX.

1 FATHER our hearts we lift,
Up to thy gracious throne,
And bleſs thee for the precious gift,
Of thine incarnate Son:
The gift unſpeakable,
We thankfully receive,
And to the world thy goodneſs tell,
And to thy glory live.

2 Jeſus the holy child,
Doth by his birth declare,
That God and man are reconciléd,
And one in him we are:
Salvation through his name
To all mankind is given,
And loud his infant cries proclaim,
A peace 'twixt earth and heaven.

3 A peace on earth he brings,
Which never more ſhall end:
The Lord of hoſts, the King of kings,
Declares himſelf our friend;
Aſſumes our fleſh and blood,
That we his Spirit may gain;
The everlaſting Son of God,
The mortal Son of man,

4 His kingdom from above,
He doth to us impart,
And pure benevolence and love,
O'erflow the faithful heart:

Changéd

Changéd in a moment we
The ſweet attraction find,
With open arms of charity
Embracing all mankind.

5 O might they all receive,
The new-born Prince of peace,
And meekly in his ſpirit live,
And in his love increaſe!
Till he convey us home,
Cry every ſoul aloud,
Come, thou deſire of nations come,
And take us up to God.

HYMN X.

1 COME, thou long-expectéd Jeſus,
Born to ſet thy people free,
From our fears and ſins releaſe us,
Let us find our reſt in thee:
Iſrael's ſtrength and conſolation,
Hope of all the earth thou art,
Dear deſire of every nation,
Joy of every longing heart.

2 Born thy people to deliver,
Born a child and yet a King,
Born to reign in us for ever,
Now thy gracious kingdom bring:
By thy own eternal Spirit,
Rule in all our hearts alone,
By thy all-ſufficient merit
Raiſe us to thy glorious throne.

HYMN XI.

1 LIGHT of thoſe whoſe dreary dwelling
Borders on the ſhades of death,
Come, and by thy love's revealing,
Diſſipate the clouds beneath:
The new heaven and earth's Creator,
In our deepeſt darkneſs riſe,
Scattéring all the night of nature,
Pouring eye-ſight on our eyes.

2 Still we wait for thy appearing,
Life and joy thy beams impart,
Chaſing all our fears, and cheering
Every poor benighted heart;
Come, and manifeſt the favour
God hath for our ranſoméd race;
Come, thou univerſal Saviour,
Come, and bring the goſpel-grace.

3 Save us in thy great compaſſion,
O thou mild, pacific Prince,
Give the knowledge of ſalvation,
Give the pardon of our ſins;
By thy all-reſtoring merit,
Every burthenéd ſoul releaſe,
Every weary wandring ſpirit,
Guide into thy perfect peace.

HYMN XII.

1 SING, ye ranſoméd nations, ſing,
Praiſes to our new-born King.
Son of man our Maker is,
Lord of hoſts and Prince of peace!

2 Lo!

2 Lo! he lays his glory by,
Emptiéd of his majeſty;
See the God who all things made,
Humbly in a manger laid.

3 Caſt we off our needleſs fear,
Boldly to his church draw near,
Jeſus is our fleſh and bone,
God *with us* is all our own.

4 Let us then with angels gaze
On our new-born Monarch's face,
With the choir celeſtial joinéd,
Shout the Saviour of mankind.

5 Son of man, will he deſpiſe,
Man's well-meaning ſacrifice?
No; with condeſcending grace
He accepts his creature's praiſe.

6 Will his majeſty diſdain
The poor ſhepherd's ſimple ſtrain:
No; for Iſrael's Shepherd, he
Loves their artleſs melody.

7 He will not refuſe the ſong
Of the ſtammering infant's tongue,
Babes he bears humanely mild,
Once himſelf a little child.

8 Let us thenour Prince proclaim,
Humbly chaunt Immanuel's name,
Publiſh at his wondrous birth,
Praiſe in heaven, and peace on earth.

9 Triumph in our Saviour's love,
Till he take us up above,
All his majeſty diſplays,
Shews us all his glorious face.

HYMN XIII.

1 LET angels and archangels ſing,
The wonderful Immanuel's name,
Adore with us our new-born King,
And ſtill the joyful news proclaim;
All earth and heaven be ever joinéd,
To praiſe the Saviour of mankind.

2 The everlaſting God comes down,
To ſojourn with the ſons of men:
Without his majeſty or crown
The great Inviſible is ſeen:
Of all his dazzling glories ſhorn,
The everlaſting God is born!

3 Angels, behold that infant's face,
With rapturous awe the Godhead own,
'Tis all your heaven on him to gaze,
And caſt your crowns before his throne;
Though now he on his footſtool lies,
Ye know he built both earth and ſkies.

4 By him into exiſtence brought,
Ye ſang the all-creating word:
Ye heard him call our world from nought;
Again, in honour of your Lord,
Ye morning ſtars, your hymns employ,
And ſhout, ye ſons of God, for joy.

HYMN XIV.

1 O Aſtoniſhing grace,
That the reprobate race
Should be reconciléd!
What a wonder of wonders that God is a child?

2 The Creator of all,
To repair our ſad fall,
From heaven ſtoops down:
Lays hold of our nature and joins to his own.

3 Our Immanuel came,
The whole world to redeem,
And incarnated ſhewéd
That man may again be united to God!

4 And ſhall we not hope,
After God to wake up,
His nature to know?
His nature is ſinleſs perfection below.

5 To this heavenly prize,
By faith let us riſe,
To his image aſcend,
Apprehended of God, let us God apprehend.

HYMN XV.

1 ALL-WISE, all-good, almighty Lord,
Jeſus, by higheſt heaven adoréd,
Ere time its courſe began,
How did thy glorious mercy ſtoop,
To take the fallen nature up,
When thou thyſelf wert man?

2 The eternal God from heaven came down,
The King of glory droppéd his crown,
And veiléd his majeſty;
Emptiéd of all but love he came,
Jeſus, I call thee by the name,
The pity bore for me.

3 O holy child, ſtill let thy birth
Bring peace to us poor worms on earth,
And praiſe to God on high!
Come, thou who didſt my fleſh aſſume,
Now to the abject ſinner come,
And in a manger lie.

4 Didſt thou not in thy perſon join
The natures human and divine,
That God and man might be
Henceforth inſeparably one?
Haſte then, and make thy nature known
Incarnated in me.

5 In my weak, ſinful fleſh appear,
O God, be manifeſted here,
Peace, righteouſneſs, and joy;
Thy kingdom, Lord, ſet up within
My faithful heart; and all my ſin,
The devil's work deſtroy.

6 I long thy coming to confeſs,
The myſtic power of godlineſs,
The life divine to prove:
The fulneſs of thy life to know,
Redeeméd from all my ſins below,
And perfected in love.

7 O Chriſt, my hope, make known to me
The great, the glorious myſtery,
The hidden life impart,

Come,

Come, thou deſire of nations, come,
Formed in a ſpotleſs virgin's womb,
A pure, believing heart.

8 Come quickly, deareſt Lord, that I
May own, though antichriſt deny,
Thy incarnation's power:
May cry, a witneſs to my Lord,
"Come in my fleſh is Chriſt the Word,
"And I can ſin no more!"

HYMN XVI.

1 O MERCY divine;
O couldſt thou incline,
My God, to become ſuch an infant as *mine*?

2 What a wonder of grace,
The Ancient of days
Is found in the likeneſs of Adam's frail race!

3 He comes from on high,
Who faſhioned the ſky,
And meekly vouchſafes in a manger to lie.

4 Our God, ever bleſt,
With oxen doth reſt,
Is nurſed by his creature, and hangs at the breaſt:

5 So heavenly mild,
His innocence ſmiled,
No wonder the mother ſhould worſhip the child.

6 The angels ſhe knew
Had worſhipped him too,
And ſtill they confeſs adoration is due.

7 On Jeſus's face
With eager amaze,
And pleaſures extatic the cherubims gaze.

8 Their newly-born King
Tranſported they ſing,
And heaven and earth with the triumph doth ring.

9 The ſhepherds behold
Him promiſéd of old
By angels attended, by prophets foretold.

10 The wiſe men adore,
And bring him their ſtore,
The rich are permitted to follow the poor.

11 To the inn they repair,
To ſee the young heir:
The inn is a palace; for Jeſus is there.

12 Who now would be great,
And not rather wait
On Jeſus, their Lord, in his humble eſtate?

13 Like him would I be!
My Maſter I ſee
In a ſtable!—a ſtable ſhall ſatisfy me.

14 With him I reſide;
The manger ſhall hide
Mine honour: the manger ſhall bury my pride.

15 And here will I lie,
Till rais'd up on high,
With him on the croſs, I recover the ſky.

HYMN

HYMN XVII.

1 WHERE is the holy, heaven-born child?
Heir of the everlaſting throne?
Who heaven and earth hath reconciléd,
And God and man rejoinéd in one?

2 Shall we of earthly kings enquire?
To courts or palaces repair?
The nation's hope, the world's deſire,
Alas! we cannot find him there.

3 Shall learning ſhew the ſinner's Friend,
Or ſcribes a ſight of Chriſt afford?
Us to his natal place they ſend,
But never go to ſeek the Lord.

4 We ſearch the outward church in vain,
They cannot him we ſeek declare,
They have not found the Son of man,
Or known the ſacred name they bear.

5 Then let us turn no more aſide,
But uſe the light himſelf imparts,
His Spirit is our fureſt guide,
His Spirit glimmering in our hearts.

6 Drawn by his grace we come from far,
And fix on heaven our wiſhful eyes
That Ray divine, that orient Star
Directs us where the infant lies.

7 See there! the new-born Saviour ſee,
By faith diſcern the great I AM;
'Tis he! the Eternal God! 'tis he
That bears the mild Immanuel's name.

8 The Prince of peace on earth is found,
The Child is born, the Son is given,
Tell it to all the nations round,
Jehovah is come down from heaven.

9 Jehovah is come down to raiſe
His dying creatures from their fall,
And all may now receive the grace
Which brings eternal life to all.

10 Lord, *we* receive thy grace, and thee
With joy unſpeakable receive,
And riſe thine open face to ſee,
And one with God for ever live.

HYMN XVIII.

1 ALL glory to God in the ſky,
And peace upon earth be reſtor'd!
O Jeſus, exalted on high,
Appear, our omnipotent Lord!
Who meanly in Bethlehem born,
Didſt ſtoop to redeem a loſt race,
Once more to thy creatures return,
And reign in thy kingdom of grace.

2 When thou in our fleſh didſt appear
All nature acknowledged thy birth;
Aroſe the acceptable year,
And heaven was opened on earth;
Receiving its Lord from above,
The world was united to bleſs,
The giver of concord and love,
The Prince and the Author of peace.

3 O would'ſt thou again be made known,
Again in thy Spirit deſcend,
And ſet up in each of thine own,
A kingdom that never ſhall end?

Thou

Thou only art able to bleſs,
And make the glad nation obey,
And bid the dire enmity ceaſe,
And bow the whole world to thy ſway.

4 Come then to thy ſervants again,
Who long thy appearing to know,
Thy quiet and peaceable reign
In mercy eſtabliſh below:
All ſorrow before thee ſhall fly,
And anger and hatred be o'er,
And envy and malice ſhall die,
And diſcord afflict us no more.

5 No horrid alarum of war,
Shall break our eternal repoſe,
No ſound of the trumpet is there,
Where Jeſus's ſpirit o'erflows:
Appeaſéd by the charms of thy grace,
We all ſhall in amity join,
And kindly each other embrace,
And love with a paſſion like thine.

5 DEC60

FINIS.